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STRUCK HARD WEATHER.

Big Knockabout Returns to T Wharf with No Fish.

The vessels of the haddocking fleet have certainly been up against it the past ten days as far as bad weather is concerned. In that time there has hardly been a chance to put a dory over the side. The big knockabout sch. Thomas A. Cromwell, which went out two weeks ago today, returned to Boston yesterday with no fish. The craft encountered the worst kind of weather and did not get a set. The bait spoiled and the crew had to throw it overboard.

line and all were justly proud of her.

About the middle of November she began to fit out for a frozen herring trip to Bay of Isal ds, N. F., and sailed for there November 22. She was on her way there when the accident happened.

Alexander Grant, the man who was lost, was one of the best known fishermen sailing from this port. He was about 48 years of age, a native of Cape Breton and unmarried. Very few men are there among the vessel owners, skippers and fishermen who did not know "Big Alex," as he was always called. Big of stature, with a heart of corresponding size, this easy-going, good-natured fellow has been almost a landmark for many years.

His strength was commensurate with his great size and he was possessed of remarkable judgment, being accounted by the skippers as "a great man in a hard time." In winter passages to Newfoundland his services were always in demand, and besides this, in his day he was accounted the smartest seine heaver in the New England mackerel seining fleet. His friends were many and the news of his loss will be learned with genuine regret.

This is the third vessel which has been lost thus far this season from this port in the prosecution of the Newfoundland herring fishery, the other two being the gasoline auxiliary sch. Edna Wallace Hopper, one of the fastest sailing vessels ever built for the fishing fleet and sch. Lewis H. Giles, another fine craft, still in her best days. Like the Alert, both were valuable craft, having been kept up in first class shape all the time.

It is no exaggeration to say that the Newfoundland herring fishery of the present season has cost to date, in loss of fishing vessels alone not less than \$58,000, and this is a conservative estimate. It serves to bring to mind an expression, before quoted, from a big vessel owner, "Taking things as a whole, Gloucester has not made a new dollar for an old one in the Newfoundland herring fishery for the past 20 years."

The Alert was insured by the Gloucester Mutual Fishing Insurance Co. for \$9600 on the vessel and \$3000 on the outfits and by the Boston Marine Insurance Co. for an additional \$8000 on the vessel.

Stevensville, the place from whence the message was sent, is the settlement reached two years ago by Capt. Vinceet Nelson and others, when their vessels were caught in the ice and lost off Port au Port bar. Capt. William H. Collins, the agent of the Gloucester Mutual Fishing Insurance Company, whose judgment on vessels and accidents is second to none, thinks that instead of happening in Bay of St. George, the loss of the Alert may have happened off Port au Port bay or bar, and that they may have reached Stevensville, as the nearest telegraph station. His opinion is sustained considerably by the fact that sch. Collector of Le Have, N. S., is known to have been wrecked near Port au Port bar during the terrible gale of Wednesday night.

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BOUND TO BAY OF ISLANDS.

Nova Scotia Herring Craft Wrecked in Gale Wednesay.

The Nova Scotia fishing sch. Collector, bound from LeHave for Bay of Islands, N. F., for a cargo of herring, was driven ashore near Port au Port, N. F., during a heavy gale on Wednesday, and will probably be a total loss.

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Steam Trawler Spray Has Small Trip.

The steam otter trawler Spray arrived at Boston this morning, having been out quite a while, with another small trip, having only 9500 pounds of fish.

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SPLENDID SCH. ALERT TOTAL LOSS.

Driven Ashore in Gale on Shore of Bay St. George, N. F.

ALEXANDER GRANT, WELL KNOWN FISHERMAN, WAS DROWNED.

Third Time Craft To Be Lost in Newfoundland Herring Fishery This Season.

The splendid sch. Alert, Capt. John F. Vautier, of this port, one of the most expensive fishing vessels ever built, and considered by many as the finest fishing craft on the coast, is a total loss on the shores of Newfoundland, and Alex. Grant, one of her crew is drowned.

The craft, with outfits, was valued in the neighborhood of \$28,000, the insurance being about \$19,750. She is the third vessel lost thus far this season in the prosecution of the Newfoundland herring fishery from this port.

The first news of the disaster came last evening in a telegram to Capt. John Chisholm, owner of the vessel. The despatch was sent from Stevensville Crossing, N. F., a small telegraph station near Bay of St. George, which is on the Treaty Coast. Beyond saying that the vessel was a total loss,

and that Alexander Grant was drowned, no particulars were given, but it is presumed that she was driven into Bay of St. George by the heavy gale of Wednesday and cast ashore at some point on the rough coast there. The fact that one of the crew was drowned shows that the loss of the vessel was attended with dramatic incidents and that the situation must have been a terrible one.

The Alert was a gasoline auxiliary schooner, 145.62 tons gross, 84.04 tons net, and was launched last spring from the yard of Tarr & James at Essex and towed here, where she was fitted with a 100 horse power Standard gasoline engine of the very latest pattern and was valued at about \$28,000.

Although she was very late in starting for the southern mackerel grounds, Capt. Vautier did well and continued to pick up fares, so that at the end of what was the poorest season ever experienced by the New England mackerel catchers found the Alert high line of the fleet.

She turned out to be a splendid craft as regard weatherly and sailing qualities and her engine worked perfectly. Altogether she was the sensation of the year in the fishing

CAPTAIN AND MEN FINED.

Charged with Stealing Nets at Bay of Islands.

Complainants Compensated by One Third of the Fines.

A despatch from St. John's N. F., states that Capt. Smith and three of the crew of the sch. Colonial of this port were tried at Bay of Islands, N. F., on the charge of stealing nets belonging to Newfoundland vessels and fined \$75 each. One third of the amount collected was turned over to the owners of the nets to compensate them for their loss.

It is thought here that probably the men were fined for underrunning nets belonging to some natives fishing for some other vessel, instead of being fined for stealing nets.

SCH TALISMAN DISABLED.

Arrived at Halifax Yesterday With Sails Torn.

Sch. Talisman, Capt. Charles Doucette, of this port, bound home from Bay of Islands, N. F., with a fare of salt herring, put into Halifax yesterday with some of her sails torn. She will repair the damage and proceed.

DAILY TIMES FISH BUREAU.

Today's Arrivals and Receipts.

Sch. Mary Edith, shore.
Sch. Hope, shore.
Sch. Eva Avina, shore.
Sloop Diana, shore.
Sloop Laura Enos, shore.

Today's Fish Market.

These prices are based on the last known sales.

Splitting prices of fresh fish; Large Eastern cod, \$1.75; medium do., \$1.25; large Western cod, \$2.62 1-2; medium do., \$1.37 1-2; haddock, \$1.00; cusk, \$1.75; hake, \$1.40; pollock, 95 cts.

Salt handline Georges codfish, \$5.00 per cwt. for large, \$4.00 for medium.

Salt Trawl Georges codfish, \$5.00 for large \$3.50 for medium.

Salt hake, \$2.00.

Salt haddock, \$2.00.

Salt cusk, \$2.25.

Salt pollock, \$1.75.

Salt trawl bank codfish, \$4.25 to \$4.50 for large, \$3.37 1-2 to \$3.50 for medium and \$2.00 for snappers.

Round pollock, \$1.00 per cwt.

Shore salt herring, \$1.75 per bbl. clear of the barrel.

Eastern "hallbut" codfish, \$4.37 1-2 per cwt. for large and \$3.25 for small.

Fresh herring \$1.50 per bbl.

Salt dory handline bank cod, \$4.75 per cwt. for large and \$3.75 for medium.

Bank halibut, 13 cts. per lb. for white and 11 1-2 cts. for gray.

Boston.

Sch. Quonnapowitt, 25,000 haddock, 5000 cod.

Steamer Spray, 8000 haddock, 1500 cod.

Sch. Mary T. Fallon, 3500 haddock, 1500 cod, 200 pollock.

Sch. Hobo, 3000 cod.

Sch. Mattie Brundage, 5000 haddock, 2500 cod.

Sch. Albert Geiger, 12,000 cod.

Sch. Teresa and Alice, 4300 haddock, 700 cod.

Sch. Stranger, 3200 haddock, 800 cod.

Sch. Ralph Russell, 14,000 pollock.

Haddock, \$5 per cwt.; large cod, \$4 to \$4.50; market cod, \$3.50; pollock, \$2.

Fishing Fleet Movements.

Sch. Brunhilde, formerly of this port, was at Canso on Tuesday.

Sch. Alice R. Lawson was at Shelburne, N. S., on Tuesday.

STEAM TRAWL FLEET.

France To Have Forty Such Craft Off Grand Bank.

French Fishermen Ask Gloucester To Make Protest.

A fleet of 40 steam trawlers is about to compete with the sailing fleet on the fishing grounds on the Newfoundland banks on this side of the Atlantic, and off the Flemish Cap on the other side, according to advices received from St. Malo, France.

A letter signed by fish merchants of St. Malo and other French ports, who have been sending a large number of sailing vessels to the banks each season for many years, states that the steam fleet will be fitted out at Dunkirk, La Rochelle and probably one other French port. It is said that the steam fleet will use St. Pierre, Miq., as a base of operations on this side of the ocean.

The French fishermen ask the fish merchants of Lunenburg, N. S., to join with them in a protest to the British and French governments against the introduction of the steam trawlers, on the ground that they would be perilous to the sailing fleet in foggy weather, and would destroy the trawls of the schooners by cruising among them. The St. Malo merchants are addressing a similar letter to the Gloucester vessel owners, asking them to try to secure the intervention of the United States government.

Bait and Ice.

The Nelson Ice and Bait Co. of Boothbay Harbor, Me., now have ice at \$2.50 per ton and frozen bait at \$2.00 per hundred weight.

BETTER THAN GOLD.

Canada's Fisheries Outweigh Precious Metal Plus Coal.

Interesting Facts and Figures from the 1905 Report.

The annual report for 1905 of the Marine and Fisheries Department of Canada has been presented to the parliament at Ottawa and contains many important and interesting facts regarding the fisheries of the Dominion.

The total catch of the year, including the fish products, was valued at nearly \$29,000,000, which amount is nearly as great as the value of the combined coal and gold production of the Dominion. The year, in fishery circles, is considered a good one, exceeding the fine showing of 1901 by \$4,000,000.

The year 1905 was the first in the history of the Dominion that the province of Nova Scotia has been ousted from its proud position as the greatest fish producing province of Canada. The province of British Columbia, however, showed the magnificent increase of \$4,631,000 over 1904 and stepped to the head and front of the column.

The following are the fish producing provinces and the value of the fish produced by each: British Columbia, \$9,850,216; Nova Scotia, \$8,259,085; New Brunswick, \$4,847,000; Quebec, \$2,003,716; Ontario, \$1,708,963; Prince Edward Island, \$998,922; Saskatchewan, \$1,811,570.

With the exception of Prince Edward Island, which shows a slight diminution, the other maritime provinces all show a substantial increase in production as compared with the previous year.

The most staple fish were the salmon, lobster, cod, herring, and whiting. Codfish, generally looked upon as being the leader, is in third place as far as value is concerned, the relative values being as follows: Salmon, \$8,989,942; lobsters, \$3,906,998; cod, \$3,421,400; herring, \$2,303,405; whitefish, \$1,051,161. Mackerel, sardines, haddock and pickerel follow in the order named, all having a commercial value over three-quarters of a million dollars for the year.

From the year 1869 to 1905, inclusive, the five principal commercial sea fishes have yielded the following values to the industry: Cod, \$136,043,567; salmon, \$90,933,459; lobsters, \$79,868,626; herring, \$72,565,569; mackerel, \$46,047,244.

During the last fiscal year the fish and fish products exported from Canada to foreign countries amounted to \$16,040,000, being an increase of over \$5,000,000 from the previous year, most of it going to Great Britain and the United States.

Referring to the bait freezer question, the deputy minister of marine in the report for Nova Scotia says that during the year 1905, American and Canadian fishing vessels took 271,823 pounds of frozen bait from the freezer at Canso, N. S., while from the freezer at Halifax, N. S., American vessels took 14,030 pounds.

There were engaged in the fishing industry in Nova Scotia in 1905, 30,779 persons, and the value of the capital invested was \$4,490,897.